

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the specification at paragraph 0029 as follows:

[0029] The ECU 7 outputs an actuating signal to a right actuator 6a and a left actuator 6b, controlling the actuation. The right and left actuators 6a and 6b are hood lifting devices. The right and left actuators 6a and 6b ~~actuated~~ actuate to hold up the hood 5. FIG. 1 illustrates the hood 5 in a lifted states. The ECU 7 makes a collision determination based on the received acceleration signals on acceleration values. When determining that the vehicle front end portion 1 has collided with an object, the ECU 7 actuates the right and left actuators 6a and 6b to lift the hood 5 to a predetermined level. As a result, impact in a secondary collision of the object with the hood 5 is mitigated.